

Express Mail Label No. EV 336 040 092 US

Attorney Docket No. 59150-8010

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane.
2. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 1, wherein the virus is derived from a wild-type virus or a recombinant-type virus.
3. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 1, wherein the virus is derived from a virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family.
4. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 3, wherein the virus is HVJ.
5. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 1, wherein the gene transfer vector is prepared by a method which comprises the steps of:
mixing the virus with an exogenous gene; and
freezing and thawing the mixture two or more times.
6. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 1, wherein the vector is prepared by a method which comprises a step of mixing the virus with an exogenous gene in the presence of a detergent.
7. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 5, wherein the method further comprises a step of inactivating the virus.
8. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 7, wherein the detergent is selected from the group consisting of octylglucoside, Triton-X100, CHAPS and NP-40.

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9. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 8, wherein the detergent is octylglucosidase.

10. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 5, wherein the method further comprises a step of adding protamine sulfate to the exogenous gene.

11. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 1 for introducing a gene into animal in vivo tissue.

12. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 11, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of the liver, skeletal muscles, the uterus, brain, eyes, carotid arteries, skin, blood vessels, the lung, the heart, kidneys, the spleen, cancer tissue, nerves, B lymphocytes, and respiratory tract tissue.

13. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for gene therapy which comprises a gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane.

14. (Currently amended) A kit for screening gene libraries, which comprises a gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane.

15. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane for gene transfer, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

mixing the virus with an exogenous gene; and
freezing and thawing the mixture two or more times.

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16. (Currently amended) A method for preparing a gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane for gene transfer, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

mixing the virus with an exogenous gene in the presence of a detergent.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of inactivating the virus.

18. (Currently amended) A method for introducing a gene into isolated animal tissue, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

preparing a gene transfer vector comprising an exogenous gene encapsulated in a native virus envelope membrane; and

introducing the gene into the isolated animal tissue via the gene transfer vector.

19. (Previously presented) A method for introducing an exogenous gene into a suspended cell, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

mixing the suspended cell with a gene transfer vector comprising the exogenous gene encapsulated in a virus envelope membrane in the presence of protamine sulfate; and

centrifuging the mixture.

20. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 6, wherein the method further comprises a step of inactivating the virus.

21. (Currently amended) AThe gene transfer vector according to claim 20, wherein the detergent is selected from the group consisting of octylglucoside, Triton-X100, CHAPS and NP-40.

22. (Previously presented) The gene transfer vector according to claim 21, wherein the detergent is octylglucoside.

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23. (Previously presented) The gene transfer vector according to claim 6, wherein the method further comprises a step of adding protamine sulfate to the exogenous gene
24. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the virus is derived from a wild-type or a recombinant-type virus.
25. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the virus is derived from a virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family.
26. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein the virus is HVJ.
27. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 14, wherein the virus is derived from a wild-type or a recombinant-type virus.
28. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 14, wherein the virus is derived from a virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family.
29. (Previously presented) The kit according to claim 14, wherein the virus is HVJ.
30. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising the step of inactivating the virus.
31. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein said virus is derived from a wild-type or a recombinant-type virus.
32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the virus is derived from a virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family.

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33. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the virus is HVJ.

34. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the virus is derived from a wild-type or a recombinant-type virus.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the virus is derived from a virus belonging to the Paramyxoviridae family.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the virus is HVJ.